The Middle School Good Times

Vol. 8 #2 PAW PAW MIDDLE SCHOOL PAW PAW, MI Dec. 1981

CONCERT DEC. 17

The annual Christmas concert will be held Wednesday, December 16, at 7:30 in the middle school auditorium.

The 7th and 8th grade choirs and the 6th grade music classes will sing many of the holiday season favorites. Among them will be "Angeks We Have Heard on High", "White Christmas", "Jingle Bell Rock" and the all time standard, "A Jingle Bell Travelogue".

kc & mh

CHRISTMAS DANCE TODAY

A Christmas dance will be held today in the middle school gym. This was the second dance of the year sponsored by the student council.

Refreshments were served and the music was supplied by Marty Albar.

PEACE

Peace is a quiet world,
Peace is a calm world
Of animals and people.

Peace is a tree in the wind,
Peace is a friend.

Peace is not worrying about harm,
Peace is a new life ahead.

Peace is a church,
Peace is you and me,
Peace is a house on a hill.

Peace is life for everyone.
Peace is love down in your heart.

kc

huh?

What's purple and has a red nose and pills Santa's sleigh?
Rudolph the Red-nosed Grape.

Only thirteen shopping days til Christmas.... and only five school days!

Resolutions we can keep... resolve to come back to school Jan.4.
Resolve to get a report card this nine weeks. Resolve to have a merry Christmas.

What is S.Y.A.?

Several middle school students are presently involvedin a new program being run 1st and 2nd hours. Groups of boys and girls meet with Mr. Ruesink or with Mrs. Sang for 48 minutes each day as part of the S.Y.A. program.

S.Y.A., or School Youth Advocacy program is a peer counseling group, funded by the Department of Social Services. The main purpose of the program is to make possible changes in student attitudes about themselves, about others, and aboout school. It also often increases academic schievement.

To be a part of the group, a student must be recommended by his teachers . He (or she) is then interviewed and given the opportunity to join the group. Students are selected on the basis of the leadership ability they have shown or could show in the school setting.

The process used in the daily discussions is called "guided group interaction." It is an eight step problem-solving method that teaches students to help each other.

t.d. & l.r.

MEET MRS. WASHINGTON

Have you met Mrs. Washington? The S.Y.A. students have and those who were interviewed for S.Y.A. have. She is the trained consultant provided by the Department of Social Services to help establish the program here at the middle school.

She will be here until June working with the groups and with Mrs. Sang and Mr. Ruesink.

hoops shot

The Elks Annual Hoop Shoot was held November 11, 1981. The winners of the event were Chris Bartholomew and Lora Redmund inthe 10-11 category. Steve Whitworth and Julie Golisek were the winners in the 12-13 class.

The winners of this event advance to the regional competition at the high school.

by m. mccarthy

Rudolph Will Ride Again

Rudolph the red-nosed reindeer made another Christmas possible, Thursday, December 24, when he desperately pulled Santa and eight other reindeer across tthe United States.

Before his journey, he and the other reindeer had been to a stag party. Tired, cranky and just plain out of sorts, the weary reindeer could barely pull the sleigh. Rudolph himself ran head on into a mountain while crossing the Rockies.

Heroically, and living up to his reputation, he managed to encourage the other deer to continue on, bringing toys to kids all over the world.

Doctors have confirmed that the famous deer will recover his strength, but advised against his overdoing again next year.

m.w.

Reindeer Repair

Rudolph the red-nosed was brought into the Northern Mechanic shop last week to repair a burned-out nose.

Having made a test run, Santa noticed Rudolph's nose fading and then it finally nurned out. Northern's mechanics hope to have him in working order for this Christmas eve.

j.b.

Super Turkey

Whoosh! Faster than a speeding hummingbird, more powerful than an ostrich, able to leap tall bird feeders in a single bound... It's a flying human? It's a plane. It's a frog? Right all three times. It's Super Turkey.

Rocketed from his home next planet Cluckton when he was only an egg, before his planet exploded, Super Turkey is dedicated to truth, justice and chicken for Christmas and Thanksgiving.

Super Turkey swoops down and attacks unsuspecting hunters who are hunting animals such as the deer, but especially those who are after game fowl, like the turkey.

You can always tell he's coming because of his resounding cry of "Gobble Gobble."

So if you're hunting turkeys, you'd better watch out. Super Turkey may come and make a turkey out of you.

b.b.

WINTER

As the trees sway,
As the snow falls,
The sun fades away.
As it fades the moon shows
Through the darkened clouds.

The clouds float away as if
Boats upon a calm open ocean.
Soon I see stars dance
As if they had no troubles.

As I watch the snowy sky, I wonder
What has happened to our glorious summer?

k.m.

Santa Tells All

North Pole (D.S.)

Santa Claus is the jolly old buzzard who brings gifts and candy to everyone at Christmas time. Everyone?

When asked about this, Mr. Claus replied," I watch out for people and especially, kids, who are bad. When I find people who are bad, I send out bad luck to these people for a while to see if they'll behave themselves If they don't, they get nothing from me. If they do, they get a merry Christmas."

It would appear that "everyone" then dones not get gifts and candy . The warning is clear. Shape up now or face a grim Christmas.

d.s.

R	E	L	V	E	S	C	D	B
E	O	O	I	E	G	D	F	L
I	E	V	J	I	N	E	C	Y
N	C	E	F	B	I	C	O	A
D	A	T	R	L	K	O	R	D
E	S	T	Q	T	C	R	A	I
E	M	B	N	A	O	A	D	L
R	C	S	S	A	T	T	E	O
E	N	W	O	N	S	E	Z	H

1. elves
2. reindeer
3. Santa
4. gifts
5. holiday
6. stockings
7. snow
8. love
9. decorate
10. tree

Good Times Staff

The Good Timers for this issue:

Kim Shears, Sheri Goens, Becky Hansen, Lauri Bonelli, Chris Kniss, Bill Hensell, Kerrie Anderson, Suzy Stevens, Sarah McCarthy, Mike McCarthy, Brian Shears, Jim Crump, Betty Dillenbeck, Laurie Lanphear, Patty Wiley, Debbie Cyrus, Kathy Cureton, Melissa Heighton, Laura Sullivan, Tracy Drake, Lora Redmund, Debbie Starbuck, Jalayne Bennett, Missy Worden, Brad Burnham, and David Millek.

ELVES

Elves are always mentioned whenever Santa is discussed. "The little people," as they are often called, are found in the folklore of several countries.

They are imaginary creatures popular in Northern Europe. Eleves are thought to be good or bad. The good ones play music and dance. They are dainty and fair. Bad ones are ugly and live underground away from sunlight. Santa's eleves are the good sort.

Related to the myths about elves are the legends about leprauchauns, pixies, gnomes, trolls, and brownies.

All of the little people are of course imaginary, but if you wake up in the morning with a strange black and blue mark , or a fever blister or during the day you trip on an unseen object...who knows?

m.h.

CAT INTERVIEWED

Interviewed recently was Cuddles Cat who was asked his opinion of the holiday, Christmas. Being a senior citizen cat, Cuddles has been through many holiday seasons. Asked "How does Christmas appeal to you, a cat?" he replied," Meow."

"Is there anything better than playing with ribbons?"

"Meow."

"The table scraps. I'll save mine for you. Is there anything bad about Christmas?"

"Merrow!"

"Don't like getting dressed up? I see, all those bows on your heard. Any last words to say tothe public?"

"Prrr..."

There it is. The cat's opinion on Christmas.

l.s.

What do you want this year?

What do you want for Christmas ? This was the question asked of dozens of middle schoolers by most of the reporters on the Good Times.

Kay Thatcher wants "a water bed." Shawn Kokitus would like a "motor cycle," as would Jeff VanDenBos. Gary Jaco would enjoy the game "Defenders." Amy Albar would like a "stereo and a gold chain." Terri Dopieralski would love"a trip around the world."

Colleen Donelly wants "a stereo." Jackie Mitchell would like "a t.v." Ellen Kupka would like "a pair of skis." Jalayne Bennett wants "a stereo and a t.v." Glen Dillon would like a "go-cart."

Theresa Cyrus would like "a stereo." Nancy Clark and Sherry Flowers would both like a "water bed." Marcie Davis, planning ahead, would like a "corvette." Laura Widger would like "an organ." Gary Conolly would like " a fishing pole." Shannon Shuring wants a " baby kitten."

Doug Reisterer wants a "water bed." Tom Ballard would like "a motor cycle and a pin ball game." Chris Dziewicki wants "a horse."

Missy Montgomery would like "cross country skis," while Melinda Flick would like a pair of"Calvin Kleins." Bill Hensell wants "Quiz Whiz," as does Tim Conklin. Doug Craddock wants "Galaziar 2." Mike Zantello wants " a brand new Z-28." Chris Bartholomew wants" Ukal rims with bulls eye hubs, ultra dyno crank, and Shamono DX pedals."

Kathy Baughman would like "roller skates." Kim Wiley wants "a whole new wardrobe." Patty Wiley wants "a phone."Dana Tyler, Rachelle Beson, and Debbie Cyrus all would like "water beds." Tracy Daigler would like" more clothes."

Dawn Stanley would like" Air Supply's album." Corrina Mandigo would like" a kitten." Roxanne Timkovich wants a "new bike." Melissa Heighton wants "a unicorn.?" Mike Kinville wants "Dark Tower."

Kelli Wallace would like"money so I can be rich." Robert Shirley would like "a new Trac bike." Mike Johnson wants "a 22 rifle." Janie Bell wants "a waterbed."

Vicki Rose wants "hiking boots." Steve Johnson wants "an electronic chess game." Mike Mumford wants"an electric football game." Patti Emerson wants "a gold watch." Bill Curtis wants "a pellet gun", while Steve Van Brusel and John Wrona want "stereos."

Wishes

What do YOU want for Christmas? continued..

Casey Kopec wants " electronic Grand Prix." Lisa Brooks wants " a curling iron." Kim Good wants "a Rubic's cube and a puppy." Mike Rox wants a "ten speed bike." Jill Gregory wants "hamsters and roller skates." Marie Hover also wants" roller skates." Julie Root wants a Rubic's cube". Jeff Alwett wants " 22 pistol gun." Mr. Ruesink would like " a day of grace." Mrs. Sang would like "a month of snow days." Mr. Zolp would like " to always have a friend you can count for help." Mrs. Swanson said,"What I'd like won't be arriving til after Christmas.. in January, in fact."

Stephanie Herwick would like "P.Q. (peace and quiet)." Bob Copeland would like" 5 bally cartridges." Phil Hubbard's ideas for Christmas include" a short brunette in the 9th grade." Teri Vanderslik wants "waterbed." Mark Kniss would like to "go to Hawaii." Frank Blackburn would enjoy his own"paddleball court." Allen McNeil wantsa "250-SL." Jeff Bauer wants "a moped," which is certainly more practical than what Pat Essex wants... "Bo Derek."

Danny Dodd wants "cross country skis", Mike Tarver wants" a Z28 camaro", while Jesse Johnson wants "$1,000,000,000." Rod Perry would like"a motorcycle", Ron Weston wants "a Kenworth rig and $1,000,000," and Larry Wycoff wants a Rubik's cube. Mike Lake wants a"car shop with tools." Brian Shears wants "a twelve gauge." Doug Thompson would enjoy "$1,000,000."

Chet Vandenberg would like"a $1,000,000,000 scholarship from M.S.U." Billy Lula would like an"Atari home video game." Jeff Radtke would enjoy "a Pac Man game." Sharyn Dillon would like "a stereo system," while Chris Picardet would want "Calvin Kleins." Tim Zdznicki wants "a shot gun reloader." Melody Perry wants a "stuffed toy." Todd Harmon would like " a portable stereo."

St. Nick

Santa is an American version of St. Nicholas, a fourth-century bishop of the Christian church in Asia minor. Dec. 6 is St. Nicholas' day. Many European children find gifts in their stockings (or shoes) that were left the night before by St. Nicholas. The early American colonists adopted the festivity from the Dutch. They changed his name and moved the day to Christmas Day.

by s.m.

FROSTY DIES

Poor old Frosty the Snowman died today due to exposure to heat in Ant - arctica late this afternoon.

His remains were quickly gathered in a container for cold storage. Services will be held next week at the snow bank near the cemetery, Snowman Graveyard.

C.K.

CLAUS DIVORCE

Mrs. Santa Claus filed for divorce again this year.

In an interview she said,"I've put up with all this Christmas garbage for three hundred years and it was really getting to me." She also stated that she hasn't seen her husband for three days and that his breakfast is getting very cold.

Mrs. Claus complained about Santa's weight problem. "Every Christmas he needs a new wardrobe,"she grumbled.

Inquiry of Mr. Claus drew this comment," Wouldn't you get fat eating all those cookies and milks put out at each house?" He admitted that getting down some those chimneys was becoming a tight squeeze and that he will need to diet before next Christmas.

The divorce is still pending.

by M.Adams

GOULY WHO?

Gouly the Ugly Reindeer
Had a very ugly face,
And if you ever saw it
You would say it had no grace.
All of the other reindeer
Used to laugh and call him names
Theynever let poor Gouly play
In any reindeer's games.
Then one foggy Christmas eve
Santa came to say,"Gouly
With your ugly sight,
Won't you scare my wife tonight?"
Then all the reindeer loved him
As he shouted with glee
Gouly the ugly reindeer
You'll go down in memory.

by a.l.

with apologies to Rudolph!

DEAR SAM

Dear Sam:

How bad is chewing tobacco for you? What proof do they have?

Red Man

Dear R.M.,

Chewing tobacco to me is not a good idea. I think it's gross, but it is also not good for your health. Many people through the years have developed mouth cancer from chewing it. For more medical information aski your doctor or your health teacher. My suggestion is if you chew, try to give it up. Tobacco in any form can cause cancer.

Dear Sam:

I am in 6th grade and I'm in love with an 8th grader. Every time I see him my knees knock. What should I do?

Desperately in love,

Dear Des,

When you are around him, try to control your knees! Also if you really love him, tell him or write him. He might get the idea and then maybe your knees won't knock anymore. If this fails, just keep trying.

Dear Sam:

I think your name is dumb. What can you do? Well I'll tell ya. Have a poll of the school to decide your name and the paper's name. Why not give us folks a chance to name something?

Me, I'm the One

Dear Me,

I'm sorry you don't approve of my name and I'll think about your suggestion, but in the mean time, I hope you will accept me as I am.

Dear Sam:

My mom and I live with her boyfriend and his son. I can't stand his son. When we get into fights, he lies and I get in trouble. I can't ignore him. I want to live somewhere else but my mom says"just ignore him." What should I do?

Helpless

Dear Help,

Stick with your mom when she says ignore him, but if you really can't, just try not to talk to him or say that it's not a good idea to tell the lies he does. Be sure to express your feelings. If this doesn't help, then you should talk to your mom and/or her boyfriend. See if you can get them to hear your side. If you really feel frustrated one day, you might want to talk to Mr. Pefley. He may have some more suggestions.

Dear Sam:

I know this person loves me but I love his brother. What should I do?

Need help

Dear Need,

Don't mislead the guy who likes you. Tell him that you really don't feel that way about him. Then try to get to know his brother and see if he likes you.

Dear Sam:

In school somehow people end up hitting me... for no reason. I'd like to smack them so hard they'd go flying across the room , but I just can't do it. What can I do?

Bruised

Dear B,

I would ask myself if there is anything that I was doing to bug them that much. If I was sure that I didn't say things to irritate people, then I would try talking to a teacher or to Mr. Pefley or Mr. Drury. Perhaps it isn't averyone who is doing. Perhaps it's only a few or one. You need to see what can be done if it's someone in your homeroom you're with all day. Also, people who do those things like to see you get mad. Since you aren't fighting back, you may want to ignore it as much as you can. Then they won't get the response they want. Still, I think you should tell one of the adults at school.

Dear Sam:

I am going with this boy andeverytime I see him or he sees me, he or I never say anything. I want to get closer to him, but I'm not sure how. Help me.

Dear Help:

How did you ever get to be going together if you don't talk? You should find someone you can talk to.

Dear Sam:

Why do we worry so much about our natural rehorses? I mean we have a lot of horses. They always say it on the news about O.P.E.C. (Old People to Eliminate Creatures) jumping up prices at the pump. (Pump? Is that a country?) Why do we care about them so much? I see a lot of horses at parades.

Black Stallion

Dear B.Stallion,

You must be watching too many rerans of old Saturday Night Live shows! This letter gets the Sea Bisket Barnyard award... for humor.

CHRISTMAS IS

Christmas is...

Christmas is for fun and joy
Christmas is for girls and boys
Christmas is a silent night
Christmas is a holy night
Christmas is a time to share
Christmas is a time to care.

by t.v.

Christmas

Christmas is made from happiness
Christmas is made from love,
Christmas is known by everyone
With kisses and with hugs.

At Christmas time no one is sloppy
They're all fun and joy
Like little girls and boys,
But when Christmas is over
The new year will come,
Everyone will yell and holler-
It is all done.

by B.D.

TREES

Why do we use Christmas treea? Legend has it that the tree was started by St. Boniface while he was a missionary to Germany. One Christmas eve he told the people that the tree pointed upward to the Christ Child. The tree is first mentioned in German writing in 1605. German immigrants brought the tree to America in the early nineteenth century.

L.B.

INTERVIEW

One of the Good Times reporters went out to interview Santa Claus' helper. He revealed his name was "Kinkles." When asked how long he works each year to get ready for Christmas, he replied that he works for twelve months with one week off after Christmas to go to Florida.

Kinkles reported that his busiest time of the year is around the end of November when the "finishing touches begin."

Our reporter wondered whether Santa actually reads every letter he gets? Kinkles said he did. He and Mrs. Santa read them each night after dinner.

Santa apparently doesn't make all his toys himself; he gets some of them on his charge card at K-Mart. Santa also doens't eat all the cookies. He may drink the milk but the cookies he doesn't like he gives to the reindeer.

What Santa does when there is no chimney is crawl in through the basement window.

E.T.

Happy Holidays

Christmas is a time when people get together across snowy hills in snowy Christmas weather. There are wreathes on the doors, holly overhead but soon you snuggle into your nice warm bed. You dream of Santa with all his many toys, that he brings around to all the girls and boys.

When you awake, you quickly run downstairs and see a lot of presents in many different pairs.

You play all day with your new toys and keep trying on a your new clothes.

Soon the day has ended. You go to sleep thinking of the day you had.

Merry Christmas.

s.g.

meaning of Christmas

Sometimes in the confusion around Christmas and the excitement we tend to forget what the celebration is all about. Is Christmas a day for tons of presents or is it the birth of Christ? Shouldn't we be celebrating that more and not sit there and wait until it's our turn to open packages? I wish we all could realize that. But I guess some days that is forgotten.

This Christmas eve think about what Christmas really is for instead of just the presents.

e.t.